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L A W S

OF THE

TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES

NORTH WEST OF THE RIVER OHIO

Adopted and published at a Session of the legislature begun in the Town of Cincinnati, County of Hamilton and Territory aforesaid upon the 23d day of April in the year of our Lord 1798 and continued by adjournments to the seventh day of May in the same year

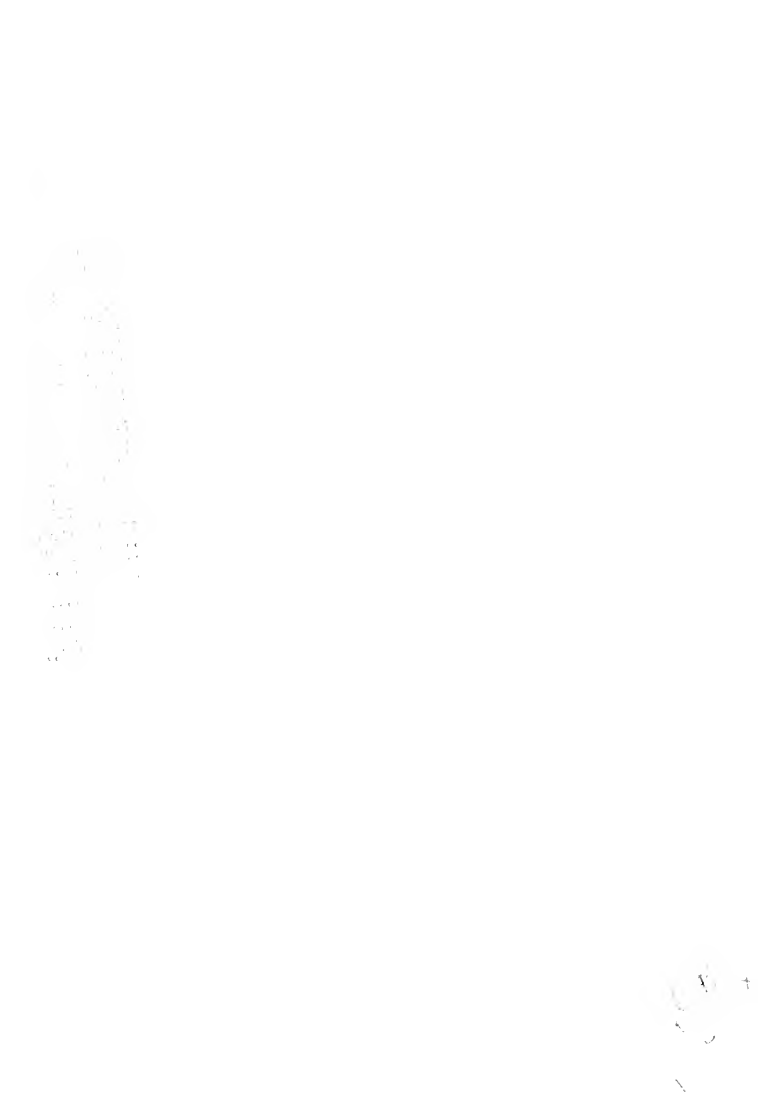
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TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES }
NORTH WEST OF THE RIVER, OHIO }



A LAW to confer on certain associations of the citizens of this Territory the powers and immunities of corporations or bodies politic in Law adop ed from the Pennsylvania Code and published at Cincinnati the first day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight by Winthrop Sargent acting as Governor, and John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior Judges

Sec I **W**HEN any number of Persons citizens of this Territory are associated or mean to associate for any religious charitable literary or other civil purposes for the promotion of social happiness and good order and shall be desirous to acquire and enjoy the powers and immunities of a corporation or body politic in law it shall and may be lawful for such persons to prepare an instrument in writing therein specifying the objects articles conditions and name stile or title under which they have associated or mean to associate and the same to exhibit and present unto two or more of the Judges of this Territory and the said Judges are hereby required thereupon to peruse and

*The purpose of
association to
be specified in
writing*

*And submitted
to the judges*

examine

Who are to re-
port upon the
legality to the
Governor

examine the said instrument and to transmit it with a certificate thereon endorsed testifying the opinion of the said Judges touching the lawfulness of the objects articles and conditions in such instrument set forth and contained unto the Governor of the Territory and if the said Judges shall certify their opinion as aforesaid to be that the objects articles and conditions in such instrument set forth and contained are lawful then the said Governor if he shall deem it proper and expedient shall transmit the same to the recorder in the proper county with an order thereon endorsed requiring him to enrol the same at the expence of the applicants and upon the enrolment thereof the persons so associated or meaning to associate shall according to the objects articles and conditions in the said instrument set forth and contained become and be a corporation or body politic in law and in fact to have continuance by the name stile and title in such instrument provided and declared

The Governors
order thereupon
is to incor-
porate the asso-
ciation

Sec 11 As often as the members of corporations established by virtue of this act and their successors respectively shall be desirous of improving amending or altering the articles and conditions of the instrument upon which the said corporations respectively are as aforesaid formed and established it shall and may be lawful for such corporations respectively in like manner to specify the improvements amendments or alterations which are or shall be desired and the same to exhibit and present to the Judges aforesaid who shall in like manner certify their opinion to the Governor of the Territory touching the lawfulness of such improvements amend-
ments

ments and alterations and the same being certified as aforesaid to be lawful shall in like manner be directed by the Governor if he shall deem it proper and expedient to be enrolled by the recorder of the proper county at the expence of the applicants and upon the enrolment thereof shall be taken and deemed to be a part of the instrument upon which such corporations respectively were formed and established to all intents and purposes as if the same had originally been made a part thereof

Provisions for altering the articles of association

Sec III The corporations established by virtue of this act and the successors thereof respectively shall have full power and authority to make have and use one common seal with such device and inscription as they shall respectively deem proper and the same to break alter or renew at their pleasure and by the name stile and title by them respectively provided and declared as aforesaid shall be able and capable in law to sue and be sued plead and be impleaded in any court or courts before any Judge or Judges justice or justices in all manner of suits complaints pleas causes matters and demands whatsoever and all and every matter or thing therein to do in as full and effectual a manner as any other person or persons bodies corporate and politic within this Territory may or can do and shall be authorized and empowered to make rules bye laws and ordinances and to do every thing needful for the good government and support of the affairs of the said corporations respectively provided always that the said bye laws rules and ordinances or any of them be not repugnant to the constitution and laws of the

Powers and privileges of associations

the United States and the laws of this Territory or to the instrument upon which the said corporations respectively are as aforesaid formed and established.

Sec IV The corporations established by virtue of this act and successors thereof respectively by the name title and title by them respectively provided and declared as aforesaid shall be able and capable in law according to the terms and conditions of the instrument upon which the said corporations respectively are as aforesaid formed and established to take receive and hold all and all manner of lands tenements rents annuities franchises and hereditaments and any sum and sums of money and any manner and portion of goods and chattels given and bequeathed unto them respectively to be employed and disposed of according to the objects articles and conditions of the instrument upon which the said corporations respectively are as aforesaid formed and established or according to the articles and bye laws of the said corporations respectively or of the will and intention of the donors

May receive
donations to a
certain amount

Provided always nevertheless that the clear yearly value or income of the messuages houses lands and tenements rents annuities or other hereditaments and real estate of the said corporations respectively and the interest of money by them lent shall not exceed the sum of fifteen hundred dollars

The foregoing is hereby declared to be a law of the Territory in *TESTIMONY* whereof we *Winthrop Sargent John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior* have

have caused the seal of the Territory to be thereunto affixed and signed the same with our names.

(Signed)

"Winthrop Sargent"

"John Cleves Symmes"

"Joseph Gilman"

"Return Jonathan Meigs junior"

TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES }
NORTH WEST OF THE RIVER OHIO }



A LAW for the punishment of maiming or disfiguring adopted from the Kentucky Code and published at Cincinnati the first day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight by Winthrop Sargent acting as Governor and John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior Judges

WHOSOEVER on purpose and of malice aforethought by lying in wait shall unlawfully cut out or disable the tongue put out an eye slit or bite the nose ear or lip or cut off or disable any limb or member with intention in so doing to maim or disfigure such person or shall voluntarily maliciously and of purpose pull or put out an eye while fighting or otherwise every such offender his or her aiders abettors and counsellors shall be sentenced to under-

Punished by
30

confinement

go a confinement in the jail of the county in which the offence is committed for any time not less than one month nor more than six months and shall also pay a fine not less than fifty dollars and not exceeding one thousand dollars one fourth of which shall be to the use of the Territory and three fourths thereof to the use of the party grieved and for want of the means of payment the offender shall be sold to service by the court before which he is convicted for any time not exceeding five years the purchaser finding him food and raiment during the term

And fine

The foregoing is hereby declared to be a law of the Territory in *TESTIMONY* whereof we *Winthrop Sargent John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman* and *Return Jonathan Meigs junior* have caused the seal of the Territory to be thereunto affixed and signed the same with our names

(Signed)

“ Winthrop Sargent ”

“ John Cleves Symmes ”

“ Joseph Gilman ”

“ Return Jonathen Meigs junior ”

TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES }
 NORTH WEST OF THE RIVER OHIO }



A LAW vesting certain powers in justices of peace in criminal cases adopted from the Massachusetts Code and published at Cincinnati the first day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight by Winthrop Sargent acting as Governor and John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior Judges

THAT it shall be within the power and be the duty of every justice of the peace within his county to punish by such fine as is by the statute laws of the Territory provided all assaults and batteries that are not of a high and aggravated nature and to cause to be stayed and arrested all attrayers rioters and disturbers and breakers of the peace and to bind them by recognizance to appear at the next General court Circuit court or court of General Quarter Sessions of the peace to be held within or for the same county at the discretion of the justice and also to require such persons to find sureties for their keeping the peace and being of good behaviour until the sitting of the court they are to appear before and to commit such persons as shall refuse or delay to recognize and find such surety or sureties and the justices of the peace shall examine into all homicides murders treasons and

Powers and duties of justices of the peace

B

felonies

felonies done and committed in their respective counties and commit to prison all persons guilty or suspected to be guilty of man slaughter murder treason or other capital offence and to hold to bail all persons guilty or suspected to be guilty of lesser offences which are not cognizable by a justice of the peace and require sureties for the good behaviour of idle vagrant and dissolute characters swindlers and gamblers as well as of dangerous and disorderly persons and shall take cognizance of and examine into all other crimes matters and offences which by particular laws are put within their jurisdiction

The foregoing is hereby declared to be a law of the Territory in *TESTIMONY* whereof we *Winthrop Sargent John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman* and *Return Jonathan Meigs junior* have caused the seal of the Territory to be thereunto affixed and signed the same with our names
(Signed)

“ *Winthrop Sargent* ”

“ *John Cleves Symmes* ”

“ *Joseph Gilman* ”

“ *Return Jonathan Meigs junior* ”

TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES }
 NORTH WEST OF THE RIVER OHIO }



A LAW for the equal division and distribution of insolvent estates adopted from the Connecticut Code and published at Cincinnati the first day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight by Winthrop Sargent acting as Governor and John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior Judges

WHEN the estate of any person deceased shall be insolvent or insufficient to pay all the just debts which the deceased owed the same shall be sold and the avails thereof be divided and distributed to and among all the creditors in proportion to the sums to them respectively owing so far as the estate will extend saving that the debts due for the last sickness and necessary funeral charges of the deceased are to be first paid and debts and taxes arrear due to the county or Territory shall not be allowed to be brought in with the demands of other creditors

Manner of paying the debt of insolvent estates

The foregoing is hereby declared to be a law of the Territory in *TESTIMONY* whereof we *Winthrop Sargent John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior* have caused the seal of the Territory to be thereunto

thereunto affixed and signed the same with our names

(Signed)

"Winthrop Sargent"

"John Cleves Symmes"

"Joseph Gilman"

"Return Jonathan Meigs junior"

TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES }
NORTH WEST OF THE RIVER OHIO }



A LAW to provide for the improvement of the breed of horses adopted from the Kentucky Code and published at Cincinnati the first day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight by Winthrop Sargent acting as Governor and John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior Judges

Stoned horse at large may be taken up

IF any stoned horse shall be found running at large out of the inclosed ground of the owner or keeper more than one year old it shall and may be lawful for any person to take up such stoned horse and give notice thereof to the owner or keeper and if such owner or keeper shall not take away and secure the same allowing him one day for every fifteen miles he may reside from such taker up the taker up shall carry

ry the same before the next justice of the peace within the county and if it appear to the said justice that the said stoned horse is more than one year old he shall issue his warrant to some person skilled in the business to geld such stoned horse and such person may demand and receive one dollar for his trouble to be paid by the taker up and such taker up shall take care of the horse so gelded for which he may demand and receive of the owner or keeper two dollars including the price paid for gelding and moreover receive eight cents per day from such owner or keeper for every day he shall keep such horse after he is gelded and when the owner or keeper of any stoned horse so found running at large is not known the taker up shall carry the same before a justice who shall cause the same to be appraised and dealt with as is by law required in taking up stray horses of the same age and moreover for two weeks cause a particular description of such appraisement to be set up at the court house door or place of holding courts and most public places in his neighbourhood for which he shall be entitled to the same reward as is allowed in case of taking up any other stray horse mare or colt and if no owner appear to prove his property within that time he may take the same before the next justice of the peace for his county who shall cause the same to be gelded as is heretofore directed and the person gelding such stoned horse shall be allowed the sum of one dollar to be paid as is heretofore required and the taker up two dollars for his trouble for curing and all reasonable charges and if the owner does not appear and prove his property

And gelded if
not taken away

At the expense
of the owner

If a stray to be

the property of the taker up perty in one year the property shall be vested in the taker up

Time limited for the owner to receive the valuation Nevertheless the former owner may at any time within three years by proving his or her property recover the valuation money

This act shall commence and be in force from and after the first day of September next

The foregoing is hereby declared to be a law of the Territory in *TESTIMONY* whereof we *Winthrop Sargent John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman* and *Return Jonathan Meigs junior* have caused the seal of the Territory to be thereunto affixed and signed the same with our names

(Signed)

"Winthrop Sargent"

"John Cleves Symmes"

"Joseph Gilman"

"Return Jonathan Meigs junior"

TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES }
 NORTH WEST OF THE RIVER OHIO }



A LAW directing the mode of proceeding in civil cases adopted from the Massachusetts Code and published at Cincinnati the first day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight by Winthrop Sargent acting as Governor and John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junr. or Judges

WHEN any defendant shall be personally served with summons or taken on a capias and enters bail according to law return thereof being made into the court where the same is returnable and he shall not appear by himself or his attorney his default shall be recorded and the charge in the declaration shall be taken and deemed to be true and the court shall thereupon proceed to assess such damages as they shall find upon examination that the plaintiff shall have really sustained and thereupon the court shall enter up judgment. Provided nevertheless that if the defendant shall come into court at any time before signing of judgment and shall pay down to the adverse party the costs he has been at thus far or so much thereof as the court shall judge reasonable then the court may admit the defendant to have the same day in court as if his default had never been recorded

In judgment by default court to assess damages

Indulgence to the defendant upon paying up costs

The foregoing is hereby declared to be a law of the Territory in *TESTIMONY* whereof we *Winthrop Sargent John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior* have caused the seal of the Territory to be thereunto affixed and signed the same with our names

(Signed)

" *Winthrop Sargent*"

" *John Cleves Symmes*"

" *Joseph Gilman*"

" *Return Jonathan Meigs junior*"

TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES }
NORTH WEST OF THE RIVER OHIO }



A LAW in addition to a law entitled "a law ascertaining the fees of the several officers and persons therein named" published at Cincinnati the first day of may one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight by Winthrop Sargent acting as Governor and John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior Judges.

Fees of the justices in Quarter Sessions

FOR every recognizance appeal or certiorari allowed twenty five cents
Trial of every cause one dollar

Every

Every order respecting poor highway or other service for the county fifteen cents	Fees of the justices in quarter session
For recommendation for a licence one dollar	
For taxing bill of costs twenty cents	
For granting writ of protection twenty cents	
On surrender of principal in court by sureties fifteen cents	
Hearing petition and making order thereon twenty five cents	
Allowing habeas corpus and writ of certiorari when presented from the Judges of the general court fifty cents	

Justices of the Peace and Common Pleas out of Sessions

For summons or capias for debt ten cents
 For every subpoena ten cents and every name inserted after three cents
 Entering every judgment for debt when trial twenty cents
 Every judgment by confession of defendant ten cents
 Every execution twenty cents
 Certified copy of all proceedings on appeal or certiorari thirty three cents
 Writing signing and sealing every attachment thirteen cents
 Entering rule of reference in docket ten cents
 Copy thereof ten cents
 Every recognizance of bail in civil causes thirteen cents
 Issuing bail piece thirteen cents
 Swearing witness six cents
 Administering oath on deposition ten cents
 Acknowledgment of a deed and power of attorney

Justices of the peace and Common Pleas out of sessions

torney by every justice of the peace twenty
live cents

Order for removing a pauper fifty cents

Order for relieving pauper twenty five cents

Issuing scire facias against special bail twen-
ty cents

Issuing scire facias to revive judgment after a
year and a day twenty cents

Order to appraise damages in trespass twenty
cents

Publishing banns of matrimony sixty seven
cents

Justices of the Common Pleas in Court

For every issue joined fifty cents

For every trial one dollar

Allowing writ of error habeas corpus or cer-
tiorari when presented from the judges of the
general court fifty cents

Granting reference twenty five cents

Approving report of referees thirty cents

On surrender of principal in court twenty
cents

Continuing cause fifty cents

Granting writ of protection twenty cents

Hearing petition and making order thereon
twenty five cents

Clerk of the Sessions

For discharging a recognizance ten cents

Each order on recommendation for a licence
including recording twenty five cents

Reading petition and entering order of court
thereon twenty cents

For examining every account in court six
cents

Justices of the
Common Pleas
in court

Clerk of the
Sessions

For

For recording every order for highway ten cents

Recording every report of highway for every seventy two words six cents

On entering appeal allowing habeas corpus and writ of certiorari when presented from the judges of the general court twelve cents

On every trial twenty five cents

Continuing cause twenty cents

Entering nolo prosequi twelve cents

Prothonotary's

On entering report of referees fifteen cents

On confession of judgment default joinder or demurrer twenty five cents

Examining bill of cost in the detail twelve cents

Continuing each cause twenty cents

On surrender of principal in court by sureties fifteen cents

Entering rule of court on appointing referees fifteen cents

On every issue joined twenty five cents

On entering every principal motion ten cents Prothonotary's

On every trial twenty five cents

For drawing special list of jury attending and striking and making copies of jury list for plaintiff and defendant sixty seven cents

Issuing commission to take deposition out of the Territory fifty cents

Clerk of the Orphan's Court

Entering every judgment order or rule of court twenty cents

For reading and filing every petition and report thirteen cents

Entering report twenty five cents

Certificate

Certificate with seal annexed to a copy for party's use thirty three cents

Every citation thirty three cents

Clerk of the orphan's court

Entry of settlement of account of executor and administrators fifty cents

For every copy of said accounts not exceeding one hundred items with certificate and seal of office one dollar

Reading and filing petition to sell land swearing administrator to the truth of the statement made and entering the necessary order thereon sixty seven cents

Giving notice by order of court for sale of land for every advertisement not exceeding three twenty five cents

Attorney's Fees in Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions

Retaining fee one dollar

Attorney's fees in common pleas and quarter sessions

Pleading fee where issue or demurrer one dollar and fifty cents

Term fee fifty cents

The attorney general's deputy in the court of common pleas or quarter sessions one half of the fees by law allowed to the attorney general in the general court for similar services

Clerk of the General Court

Drawing recognizance of bail twenty five cents

Every continuance forty cents

Drawing all writs or process when requisite for every seventy two words eighteen cents

Entering issue joined fifty cents

Venire facias fifty cents

drawing cost bill when the cause dies before issue joined thirty seven and a half cents

Clerk of the general court

Drawing

Drawing cost bill after trial fifty cents

Every trial fifty cents

Every rule of reference for trial to shew cause to take depositions to give security for costs for persons out of the Territory seventeen cents

Copy of the same if demanded twenty five cents

Calling plaintiff or defendant and entering default in his appearance twenty six cents

Commission to take deposition out of the Territory seventy five cents

For all services rendered the county by the justices of the peace in or out of sessions by the justices of the common pleas in or out of court by the prothonotary clerk of the general court clerk of the sessions deputy of the attorney general sheriff coroner or constable in cases where fees are not provided by law such compensation shall be allowed them respectively by the commissioners and assessors of the proper counties at their yearly meeting as to the commissioners and assessors shall appear reasonable. All and every the respective officers whose fees are herein and in the law entitled " a law ascertaining the fees of the several officers and persons therein named ascertained limited and appointed shall and are hereby required to make fair tables of their fees respectively according to this and the aforesaid act and to publish and set up the same in their respective offices within six months after the passing of this act in some conspicuous part for the inspection of all persons who have business in said offices on pain of forfeiting for each day the same shall be missing through the said officers neglect the sum

Services not herein specified provided for

Table of fees to be set up

Penalty in failure

Penalty for taking other than legal fees

Bills of costs in detail required

sum of ten dollars which penalty may be recovered in any court of record by action of debt one half to the informer and the other half to the Territory. If any officer whatsoever shall take greater fees than is herein before expressed and limited for any service to be done by him after the first day of October next in his office or if any officer shall charge or demand and take any of the fees herein or in the aforesaid law before ascertained when the business for which such fees is chargeable shall not have been actually done and performed such officer for every such offence shall on conviction thereof before any court of record for the proper county forfeit and pay to the party injured fifty dollars. It shall and may be lawful for any person to refuse payment of fees to any officer who will not make out a bill of particulars signed by him if required and also a receipt or discharge signed by him of the fees paid

The foregoing is hereby declared to be a law of the Territory in *TESTIMONY* whereof we *Winthrop Sargent John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior* have caused the seal of the Territory to be thereunto affixed and signed the same with our names

(Signed)

“ *Winthrop Sargent* ”

“ *John Cleves Symmes* ”

“ *Joseph Gilman* ”

“ *Return Jonathan Meigs junior* ”

TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES }
 NORTH WEST OF THE RIVER OHIO }



A LAW for the purpose of including all unscitiled and unimproved tracts or parcels of land and subjecting them to taxation adopted from an act of the state of Kentucky and published at Cincinnati the first day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight by Winthrop Sargent acting as Governor and John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior Judges

Sec I **T**HERE shall be paid within this Territory the following taxes for every hundred acres of unimproved uncleared prairie or wood land the following sums according to the following classes The land shall be divided into three classes according to their quality that is to say first second and third rate taking into view the surface of the earth as well as the quality of the soil The first rate shall be taxed at thirty cents the second rate at twenty cents and the third rate at ten cents per hundred acres and in the same proportion for a greater or less quantity which taxes shall be assessed collected and paid annually into the county treasury in the same manner and by the same commissioners assessors collectors and constables who are appointed qualified and authorized for fiscal purposes by a law of the Territory

Classes and
rates of land

Territory for raising county rates and levies and the money when raised shall be appropriated for the same purposes by the same agents and under the same regulations as monies raised by the law for raising county rates and levies

Sec II And the following rule shall be observed in rating any tract of land where a greater part of a tract shall be superior in point of quality to second rate land it shall be denominated first rate where a greater part of a tract shall be inferior to first rate and superior to third rate in point of quality it shall be denominated second rate and where the greater part of a tract of land shall be inferior to second rate it shall be denominated third rate land and any tract or tracts of land that the owner has no knowledge of and can not give satisfactory information thereof shall be placed in the second class

Rule of taxing

Sec III When any person thinks any tract or tracts of land belonging to him or her are placed in an improper class or the land twice or improperly listed it shall be lawful for such person upon application to the court of general quarter sessions of the peace of the county in which the lands lie and making due proof of the same to have the matter rectified and the proper class of such tract or tracts ascertained or error corrected and where any land shall be classed in an inferior class to what it ought to be on due proof thereof to the court of quarter sessions of the county in which the land lies or in which it is listed the said court shall have the same rectified and placed in the proper class which alteration shall be certified by the clerk of the sessions to the commissioners and assessors and they shall

Remedy in case of error

shall be governed accordingly.

Sec IV The Territory shall have a perpetual lien on every tract of land and every part thereof for the amount of all taxes and ten per centum interest thereon from the time when they became due and no alienation of lands belonging to any person shall affect the claim or lien of this Territory until the taxes and interest thereof due from such person are paid

Territorial lien

Sec V In case of delinquency in the payment of these taxes in the ordinary way and time pointed out by said law for raising county rates and levies it shall be lawful for the collector on his receiving a warrant for the purpose from the court of quarter sessions to sell at public auction so much of each tract of land charged with taxes as will raise a sum of money sufficient to pay the same if the said lands shall lie in his township and the collector shall in that case advertise the land by imaginary metes and bounds where it lies the time and place of sale for at least twenty days previous to the sale at the door of the house where the general quarter sessions are held and during one term of the court and also in three public places in his proper township the vendue shall be fair in open day and the land struck off to the highest bidder who shall be able to pay down the money After such sale it shall be the duty of such collector to deliver to the purchaser a certificate of the quantity of land sold describing therein the part that was charged with the tax and the corner or side by courses and distances from which the quantity sold is to be taken and the sheriff of the county upon receipt of such

Lands to be sold
for taxes

D

certificate

certificate shall convey the same land to the purchaser by deed in due form of law executed which conveyance shall vest in the purchaser all the right title and interest of the proprietor for whose tax the land shall be sold and in consideration of law shall also vest the possession of the land in the purchaser

Time for sale
continued

Sec VI and where any tract of land or part thereof is not sold upon being exposed as aforesaid and the tax on the same not paid it shall be the duty of the collector to advertise and expose the same to sale in like manner as to time and place as aforesaid at every court of quarter sessions until the land sell or the tax be otherwise paid and the taxes due on all lands exposed to sale as aforesaid and on all other lands on which the taxes are not paid within the time prescribed by law shall bear an interest of ten per centum per annum until the whole of the taxes due thereon are paid and no sheriff or collector or their deputies shall directly or indirectly purchase any land that shall be exposed to sale for the payment of taxes Provided however that this law shall not extend to unpatented lands which are or ever have been the property of the United States nor to any lands appropriated to certain public uses excepting the donation land granted by congress to individuals situate in the counties of Knox St. Clair and Randolph

Lands exempt-
ed

The foregoing is hereby declared to be a law of the Territory to take effect on and from the first day of December next ensuing in *TESTIMONY* whereof we *Winthrop Sargent John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior* have caused the seal of the Territory

Territory to be thereunto affixed and signed the same with our names

(Signed)

"Winthrop Sargent"

"John Cleves Symmes"

"Joseph Gilman"

"Return Jonathan Meigs junior"

TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES }
NORTH WEST OF THE RIVER OHIO }



A LAW rendering the acknowledgement of Deeds more easy adopted from the Connecticut code and published at Cincinnati the first day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight by Winthrop Sargent acting as Governor and John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior Judges

ALL grants and deeds made of houses and lands may be acknowledged before one of the Judges of the Territory justice of the common pleas or justice of the peace any former law to the contrary notwithstanding

Deeds may be acknowledged before a justice of the peace

The foregoing is hereby declared to be a law of the Territory in *TESTIMONY* whereof we *Winthrop Sargent John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior* have caused the seal of the Territory to be thereunto

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"Return Jonathan Meigs junior"

TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES }
NORTH WEST OF THE RIVER OHIO }



A LAW for establishing a land office adopted from the Kentucky code and published at Cincinnati the first day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight by Winthrop Sargent acting as Governor and John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior Judges

See 1 **A** LAND-OFFICE shall be and the same is hereby constituted in each and every of the respective counties for the purposes hereafter mentioned. A register of each of the said offices shall be appointed by the Governor who shall give bond with sufficient surety to the Governor of the Territory in the penalty of one thousand dollars for the faithful discharge of his duty in his office of register and shall receive the fees hereafter mentioned and the said register shall furnish books and other necessary appendages to his office

Register

Bond

Sec

Sec II And be it further known that short or brief extracts of all records or copies thereof as the case may be of patents granted or deeds for lands or other papers or documents relating thereto which may be evidence of claim certificates of surveys of land which have been or may be hereafter made for which a consideration has been paid by the purchaser or acknowledged to have been received by the seller shall be briefly stated in writing under the hand of the owner or claimant of the land patent deed survey certificate or other document or writing touching land or under the signature of the register of the several land offices in the United States or a certified extract of any of the aforesaid writings or evidence of claim lien or fee to lands within the respective counties shall be returned to filed and entered in a proper book kept for the purpose in the said office in order that it may be known with certainty to whom lands in this Territory belong that accurate and just assessments thereof may be made by the several assessors and commissioners of the respective counties agreeably to the law of the Territory "for the purpose of including all unsettled and unimproved tracts or parcels of land" and the register shall receive seventeen cents for every seventy two words of such extract or other writing which shall be presented to him to enter in his book and file in his office which fee shall be paid by the person presenting the same

Record claims

Fees thereon

Sec III And it is hereby enjoined on and made the duty of every proprietor of lands within any or either of the counties of the Territory at

Land holders
to report to the
register

Penalty in fail-
ure thereof

at or before the first day of December next by himself or his agent to cause all the lands which he claims or holds in the Territory to be fairly stated as to quality and quantity described and set forth by some one or other of the before mentioned documents copies certificates or extracts and the same to be lodged with the register of the land office of the county in which such lands may be under the penalty of having his lands doubly taxed for three years successively after such covin or fraud shall be detected

The foregoing is hereby declared to be a law of the Territory in *TESTIMONY* whereof we *Winthrop Sargent John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman* and *Return Jonathan Meigs junior* have caused the seal of the Territory to be thereunto affixed and signed the same with our names

(Signed)

“ *Winthrop Sargent* ”

“ *John Cleves Symmes* ”

“ *Joseph Gilman* ”

“ *Return Jonathan Meigs junior* ”

TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES }
 NORTH WEST OF THE RIVER OHIO }



AN ACT repealing certain laws and parts of laws made and published conformably to the act of the United States entitled "an act respecting the government of the Territories north west and south of the Ohio" at Cincinnati the first day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight by Winthrop Sargent acting as Governor and John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior Judges

BE it enacted that the laws and parts of laws herein after particularly enumerated and expressed be and the same hereby are repealed to wit so much of the law entitled "a law ascertaining and regulating the fees of the several officers and persons therein named" as is contained in the twenty eighth section thereof

Certain acts repealed

So much of the law entitled "a law for raising county rates and levies as concerns the power and duties of justices as to wild animals killed

The foregoing is hereby declared to be a law of the Territory in *TESTIMONY* whereof we *Winthrop Sargent John Cleves Symmes Joseph Gilman and Return Jonathan Meigs junior* have caused the seal of the Territory to be there-

unto

unto affixed and signed the same with our
names

(Signed)

" Winthrop Sargent "

" John Cleves Symmes "

" Joseph Gilman "

" Return Jonathan Meigs junior "

Collected with, and declared to be a true
Copy of the Laws as set forth in the Title
Page

Attest

WINTHROP SARGENT

Secretary.



